

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for producing xylylenediamine and/or cyanobenzylamine by a liquid-phase hydrogenation of a phthalonitrile compound in the presence of a catalyst, the liquid-phase hydrogenation being performed while controlling
5 a concentration of a benzamide compound in a reaction solution to 0.35% by weight or lower.

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the benzamide compound in the reaction solution is 0.07% by weight or lower.

3. The process according to claim 1, wherein the hydrogenation is
10 performed while further controlling a concentration of a benzoic acid compound in the reaction solution to 0.1% by weight or lower.

4. The process according to claim 1, wherein the hydrogenation is performed while further controlling a concentration of a benzoic acid compound in the reaction solution to 0.05% by weight or lower.

15 5. The process according to according to claim 1, wherein the benzamide compound is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of 3-cyanobenzamide, 4-cyanobenzamide, isophthalamide, m-toluamide, p-toluamide and benzamide.

6. The process according to according to claim 3, wherein the benzoic
20 acid compound is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of 3-cyanobenzoic acid, 4-cyanobenzoic acid, 3-methylbenzoic acid, 4-methylbenzoic acid, benzoic acid and salts of the preceding compounds.

7. The process according to according to claim 4, wherein the benzoic
25 acid compound is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of 3-cyanobenzoic acid, 4-cyanobenzoic acid, 3-methylbenzoic acid, 4-methylbenzoic acid, benzoic acid and salts of the preceding compounds.